

**Project Manager:**

Billy Bennett  
300 Sower Blvd., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
Email: billy.bennett@ky.gov  
Phone: 502-564-9299

**Grant Number (FAIN): 00D53017****Modification Number: 0****Program Code: NE****EPA Project Manager:**

Jason McDonald  
61 Forsyth Street  
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

**Project Period:** 09/01/2016 – 08/31/2018

**EPA Local EE Grant Work Plan  
Semi-annual Report  
September 1 – February 28, 2018**

**Work Progress and Status**

Since the last semi-annual report, the Kentucky Environmental Education Council has awarded 22 EPA sub-grants with at least one representative school in each of the seven main watershed basins, completed one of the two remaining teacher professional development workshops, and hired a new Environmental Education Specialist to coordinate the sub-grant projects and remaining workshops.

The application deadline for sub-grants was September 30, 2017. The Kentucky Environmental Education Council received 26 applications, from which it selected 21 schools to receive awards of \$1000 each, based on a rubric considering each school's diversity and economic and environmental factors. The schools represented every watershed basin in Kentucky except the Big Sandy, from which no applications were received prior to the deadline date. Efforts continued to reach out to schools in that basin in order to find an applicant, and in January 2018, the newly hired coordinator was able to recruit a high school located in the Big Sandy watershed basin.

In January 2018, KEEC initiated contracts with the 22 schools receiving sub-grants. KEEC developed the EPA Sub-grant Contracts from budget proposals that were submitted by each of the participating schools' teachers. These contracts were drafted with the assistance from the Commonwealth's Financial and Legal Departments. Then these contracts were sent to the Financial Departments of each School's District Board of Education Central Office for the necessary signatures.

The fourth teacher Professional Development Workshop was held on September 13, 2017, in the Red River Gorge Geological Area near the border of the Kentucky River Watershed and the Big Sandy Watershed. There were 14 attendees. To date, four teacher Professional Development Workshops with a total of 64 participants have been conducted. The final teacher Professional Development Workshop for the Four Rivers Basin was postponed due to a change in the availability of the former Environmental Education Specialist who would have conducted this workshop, but will be held in summer 2018. This aligns with the original grant proposal that the KEEC anticipated with 75 participants in the five total workshops.

### **Changes in Key Personnel**

KEEC hired a new Environmental Education Specialist, Gregory Taylor, on December 1, 2017. Gregory has 13 years of experience as a Science Teacher in multiple grade levels, three years of experience as a K-12 Science Instructional Coach for a Public School District in Central Kentucky, over 40 years of experience in Agri-business, and over twenty years of experience in the Utility Industry.

Upon his hiring as an Environmental Education Specialist, Gregory contacted all schools in the Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools program, including those participating in sub-grants, to offer assistance with environmental education. He has coordinated the contracts for sub-grants and communicated about improvement projects. will conduct the final remaining teacher professional development workshop in the spring of 2018, and use the workshop to share successes of the water grant program and encourage participation in the Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools program for future years. He will also conduct sub-grant training for participating schools and assist with their water projects remotely and through site visits.

### **Why Anticipated Outputs or Outcomes Were Not Met**

All anticipated outputs and outcomes have been met, or are on target to be met, except for having a participating school in each watershed basin. Once a school was recruited from the Big Sandy watershed basin, all basins were represented, some with only one school. The lone school in the Four Rivers watershed basin was Marshall County High School. After initiating the grant project, however, Marshall County High School was the target of a deadly mass shooting. Classes were called off in the aftermath, and the school has suspended some activities, including the group that would have completed the water project. Because of state contract rules, it is too late to recruit another school from Four Rivers watershed basin to complete a water project this year.

### **Preliminary Data Results**

Data from the teacher professional development workshops was reported in the previous semi-annual report. Data from the water projects will be reported in the final report.

### **Equipment, Techniques, and Materials Used or Evaluated**

Techniques and materials used in the September professional development workshop were the same as those used in previous workshops reported in the last semi-annual report.

## Expenditures

KEEC Grant Expense Summary - September 1, 2016 through February 28, 2018

		<b>EPA Funds</b>	<b>Non-EPA Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Personnel/Salaries</b>	<b>Actual</b>	\$30,327.25	\$17,050.78	\$47,378.03
	<b>Budget</b>	\$45,858.93	\$22,167.79	\$68,026.72
<b>Fringe Benefits</b>	<b>Actual</b>	\$0.00	\$10,765.86	\$10,765.86
	<b>Budget</b>	\$0.00	\$13,675.38	\$13,675.38
<b>Travel</b>	<b>Actual</b>	\$529.75	\$0.00	\$529.75
	<b>Budget</b>	\$4,193.75	\$195.00	\$4,388.75
<b>Supplies</b>	<b>Actual</b>	\$4,449.81	\$0.00	\$4,449.81
	<b>Budget</b>	\$7,792.32	\$0.00	\$7,792.32
<b>Other Costs</b>	<b>Actual</b>	\$1,866.28	\$0.00	\$1,866.28
	<b>Budget</b>	\$33,155.00	\$3,100.00	\$36,255.00
	<b>TOTAL ACTUAL</b>	\$37,173.09	\$27,816.64	\$64,989.73
	<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	\$91,000.00	\$39,138.17	\$130,138.17

KEEC remains within the budget parameters of the grant agreement.

### Activity Anticipated During the Subsequent Reporting Period

In the subsequent reporting period, schools will complete water improvement projects, submit invoices, and be reimbursed for expenses through the sub-grant program. All schools that complete a project through the Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools program will receive awards, and may choose to attend the Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools and KY NEED Youth Summit and Awards Luncheon in Lexington on April 26. Grant-funded subsidies for transportation are available.